

House Bill 1072

By: Representatives Burkhalter of the 50th, Willard of the 49th, Rice of the 51st, Jones of the 46th, and Martin of the 47th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To incorporate the City of Riverside in Fulton County, Georgia; to provide a charter for the
2 City of Riverside; to provide for incorporation, boundaries, and powers of the city; to provide
3 for a governing authority of such city and the powers, duties, authority, election, terms,
4 method of filling vacancies, compensation, qualifications, prohibitions, and removal from
5 office relative to members of such governing authority; to provide for inquiries and
6 investigations; to provide for organization and procedures; to provide for ordinances and
7 codes; to provide for the offices of mayor and city manager and certain duties and powers
8 relative to those offices; to provide for administrative responsibilities; to provide for boards,
9 commissions, and authorities; to provide for a city attorney, a city clerk, a city tax collector,
10 a city accountant, and other personnel; to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for a
11 municipal court and the judge or judges thereof; to provide for practices and procedures; to
12 provide for taxation and fees; to provide for franchises, service charges, and assessments; to
13 provide for bonded and other indebtedness; to provide for accounting and budgeting; to
14 provide for purchases; to provide for the sale of property; to provide for bonds for officials;
15 to provide for eminent domain; to provide for penalties; to provide for definitions and
16 construction; to provide for other matters relative to the foregoing; to provide for a
17 referendum; to provide effective dates; to provide for transition of powers and duties; to
18 provide for directory nature of dates; to provide for a charter commission; to provide for
19 severability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

ARTICLE I

INCORPORATION AND POWERS

SECTION 1.10.

Incorporation.

H. B. 1072

1 The City of Riverside in Fulton County is incorporated by the enactment of this charter and
2 is constituted and declared a body politic and corporate under the name of the "City of
3 Riverside." References in this charter to "the city" or "this city" refer to the City of
4 Riverside. The city shall have perpetual existence.

5 **SECTION 1.11.**

6 Corporate boundaries.

7 The incorporated area of this city shall consist of all of that portion of Fulton County, as set
8 forth and described in Appendix A of this charter, which Appendix is incorporated herein by
9 reference; and with such alterations as may be made thereafter from time to time by local law
10 or in the manner provided by general state law. As used in this charter, the term "Territory"
11 means the area described in this section. The boundaries of this city at all times shall be
12 shown on a map, a written description, or any combination thereof, to be retained
13 permanently in the office of the city clerk of the city and to be designated, as the case may
14 be: "Official Map or Description of the Corporate Limits of the City of Riverside, Georgia."
15 Photographic, typed, or other copies of such map or description certified by the mayor shall
16 be admitted as evidence in all courts and shall have the same force and effect as the original
17 map or description.

18 **SECTION 1.12.**

19 Municipal powers.

20 (a) This city shall have all powers possible for a city to have under the present or future
21 Constitution and laws of this state as fully and completely as though they were specifically
22 enumerated in this charter. This city shall have all the powers of self-government not
23 otherwise prohibited by this charter or by general law.

24 (b) The powers of this city shall be construed liberally in favor of the city. The specific
25 mention or failure to mention particular powers shall not be construed as limiting in any way
26 the powers of this city. Said powers shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

27 (1) Air and water pollution. To regulate the emission of smoke or other exhaust which
28 pollutes the air and to prevent the pollution of natural streams which flow within the
29 corporate limits of the city;

30 (2) Animal regulations. To regulate and license or to prohibit the keeping or running at
31 large of animals and fowl and to provide for the impoundment of same if in violation of
32 any ordinance or lawful order; to provide for the disposition by sale, gift, or humane

1 destruction of animals and fowl when not redeemed as provided by ordinance; and to
2 provide punishment for violation of ordinances enacted under this paragraph;

3 (3) Appropriations and expenditures. To make appropriations for the support of the
4 government of the city; to authorize the expenditure of money for any purposes
5 authorized by this charter and for any purpose for which a municipality is authorized by
6 the laws of the State of Georgia; and to provide for the payment of expenses of this city;

7 (4) Building regulations. To regulate and to license the erection and construction of
8 buildings and all other structures not inconsistent with general law; to adopt building,
9 housing, plumbing, electrical, gas, and heating and air-conditioning codes; and to regulate
10 all housing and building trades except as otherwise prohibited by general law;

11 (5) Business regulation and taxation. To levy and to provide for the collection of license
12 fees and taxes on privileges, occupations, trades, and professions; to license and regulate
13 the same; to provide for the manner and method of payment of such licenses and taxes;
14 and to revoke such licenses after due process for the failure to pay any city taxes or fees;

15 (6) Condemnation. To condemn property, inside or outside the corporate limits of the
16 city, for present or future use and for any corporate purpose deemed necessary by the
17 governing authority, utilizing procedures enumerated in Title 22 of the O.C.G.A. or such
18 other laws as are or may hereafter be enacted;

19 (7) Contracts. To enter into contracts and agreements with other governments and
20 entities and with private persons, firms, and corporations;

21 (8) Emergencies. To establish procedures for determining and proclaiming that an
22 emergency situation exists inside or outside the city and to make and carry out all
23 reasonable provisions deemed necessary to deal with or meet such an emergency for the
24 protection, safety, health, or well-being of the citizens of the city;

25 (9) Environmental protection. To protect and preserve the natural resources,
26 environment, and vital areas of the city, the region, and the state through the preservation
27 and improvement of air quality, the restoration and maintenance of water resources, the
28 control of erosion and sedimentation, the management of storm water and establishment
29 of a storm-water utility, the management of solid and hazardous waste, and other
30 necessary actions for the protection of the environment;

31 (10) Ethics. To adopt ethics ordinances and regulations governing the conduct of
32 municipal elected officials, appointed officials, and employees, establishing procedures
33 for handling ethics complaints, and setting forth penalties for violations of such rules and
34 procedures;

35 (11) Fire regulations. To fix and establish fire limits and from time to time extend,
36 enlarge, or restrict the same; to prescribe fire safety regulations, not inconsistent with

1 general law relating to both fire prevention and detection and to fire fighting; and to
2 prescribe penalties and punishment for violations thereof;

3 (12) Garbage fees. To levy, fix, assess, and collect a garbage, refuse, and trash collection
4 and disposal and other sanitary service charge, tax, or fee for such services as may be
5 necessary in the operation of the city from all individuals, firms, and corporations
6 residing in or doing business within the city and benefiting from such services; to enforce
7 the payment of such charges, taxes, or fees; and to provide for the manner and method
8 of collecting such service charges;

9 (13) General health, safety, and welfare. To define, regulate, and prohibit any act,
10 practice, conduct, or use of property which is detrimental to the health, sanitation,
11 cleanliness, welfare, and safety of the inhabitants of the city and to provide for the
12 enforcement of such standards;

13 (14) Gifts. To accept or refuse gifts, donations, bequests, or grants from any source for
14 any purpose related to the powers and duties of the city and the general welfare of its
15 citizens on such terms and conditions as the donor or grantor may impose;

16 (15) Health and sanitation. To prescribe standards of health and sanitation within the
17 city and to provide for the enforcement of such standards;

18 (16) Homestead exemption. To establish and maintain procedures for offering
19 homestead exemptions to residents of the city as authorized by Act of the General
20 Assembly;

21 (17) Jail sentences. To provide that persons given jail sentences in the municipal court
22 may work out such sentences in any public works or on the streets, roads, drains, and
23 squares in the city; to provide for the commitment of such persons to any jail; or to
24 provide for the commitment of such persons to any county work camp or county jail by
25 agreement with the appropriate county officials;

26 (18) Motor vehicles. To regulate the operation of motor vehicles and exercise control
27 over all traffic, including parking, upon or across the streets, roads, alleys, and walkways
28 of the city;

29 (19) Municipal agencies and delegation of power. To create, alter, or abolish
30 departments, boards, offices, commissions, and agencies of the city and to confer upon
31 such agencies the necessary and appropriate authority for carrying out all the powers
32 conferred upon or delegated to the same;

33 (20) Municipal debts. To appropriate and borrow money for the payment of debts of the
34 city and to issue bonds for the purpose of raising revenue to carry out any project,
35 program, or venture authorized by this charter or the laws of the State of Georgia;

1 (21) Municipal property ownership. To acquire, dispose of, and hold in trust or
2 otherwise any real, personal, or mixed property, in fee simple or lesser interest, inside or
3 outside the property limits of the city;

4 (22) Municipal property protection. To provide for the preservation and protection of
5 property and equipment of the city and the administration and use of same by the public;
6 and to prescribe penalties and punishment for violations thereof;

7 (23) Municipal utilities. To acquire, lease, construct, operate, maintain, sell, and dispose
8 of public utilities, including, but not limited to, a system of waterworks, sewers, and
9 drains, sewage disposal, gas works, electric plants, transportation facilities, public
10 airports, and any other public utility; and to fix the taxes, charges, rates, fares, fees,
11 assessments, regulations, and penalties therefor; and to provide for the withdrawal of
12 service for refusal or failure to pay the same; and to authorize the extension of water,
13 sewerage, and electrical distribution systems, and all necessary appurtenances by which
14 said utilities are distributed, inside and outside the corporate limits of the city; and to
15 provide utility services to persons, firms, and corporations inside and outside the
16 corporate limits of the city as provided by ordinance;

17 (24) Nuisances. To define a nuisance and provide for its abatement whether on public
18 or private property;

19 (25) Penalties. To provide penalties for violation of any ordinances adopted pursuant to
20 the authority of this charter and the laws of the State of Georgia;

21 (26) Planning and zoning. To provide comprehensive city planning for development by
22 zoning and to provide subdivision regulation and the like as the city council deems
23 necessary and reasonable to ensure a safe, healthy, and esthetically pleasing community;

24 (27) Police and fire protection. To exercise the power of arrest through duly appointed
25 police officers and to establish, operate, or contract for a police and a fire-fighting
26 agency;

27 (28) Public hazards; removal. To provide for the destruction and removal of any
28 building or other structure which is or may become dangerous or detrimental to the
29 public;

30 (29) Public improvements. To provide for the acquisition, construction, building,
31 operation, and maintenance of public ways, parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities,
32 cemeteries, markets and market houses, public buildings, libraries, public housing,
33 airports, hospitals, terminals, docks, parking facilities, or charitable, cultural, educational,
34 recreational, conservation, sport, curative, corrective, detentional, penal, and medical
35 institutions, agencies, and facilities; to provide any other public improvements inside or
36 outside the corporate limits of the city; to regulate the use of public improvements; and,

1 for such purposes, property may be acquired by condemnation under Title 22 of the
2 O.C.G.A. or such other applicable laws as are or may hereafter be enacted;

3 (30) Public peace. To provide for the prevention and punishment of drunkenness, riots,
4 and public disturbances;

5 (31) Public transportation. To organize and operate or contract for such public
6 transportation systems as are deemed beneficial;

7 (32) Public utilities and services. To grant franchises or make contracts for public
8 utilities and public services and to prescribe the rates, fares, regulations, and the standards
9 and conditions of service applicable to the service to be provided by the franchise grantee
10 or contractor, insofar as not in conflict with valid regulations of the Public Service
11 Commission;

12 (33) Regulation of roadside areas. To prohibit or regulate and control the erection,
13 removal, and maintenance of signs, billboards, trees, shrubs, fences, buildings, and any
14 and all other structures or obstructions upon or adjacent to the rights of way of streets and
15 roads or within view thereof, inside or abutting the corporate limits of the city and to
16 prescribe penalties and punishment for violation of such ordinances;

17 (34) Retirement. To provide and maintain a retirement plan for officers and employees
18 of the city;

19 (35) Roadways. To lay out, open, extend, widen, narrow, establish or change the grade
20 of, abandon or close, construct, pave, curb, gutter, adorn with shade trees, or otherwise
21 improve, maintain, repair, clean, prevent erosion of, and light the roads, alleys, and
22 walkways within the corporate limits of the city; and to negotiate and execute leases over,
23 through, under, or across any city property or the right of way of any street, road, alley,
24 and walkway or portion thereof within the corporate limits of the city for bridges,
25 passageways, or any other purpose or use between buildings on opposite sides of the
26 street and for other bridges, overpasses, and underpasses for private use at such location
27 and to charge a rental therefor in such manner as may be provided by ordinance; and to
28 authorize and control the construction of bridges, overpasses, and underpasses within the
29 corporate limits of the city; and to grant franchises and rights of way throughout the
30 streets and roads and over the bridges and viaducts for the use of public utilities and for
31 private use;

32 (36) Solid waste disposal. To provide for the collection and disposal of garbage, rubbish,
33 and refuse and to regulate the collection and disposal of garbage, rubbish, and refuse by
34 others; and to provide for the separate collection of glass, tin, aluminum, cardboard,
35 paper, and other recyclable materials and provide for the sale of such items;

1 (37) Special areas of public regulation. To regulate or prohibit junk dealers, pawn shops,
2 the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors, and the use of firearms;
3 to regulate the transportation, storage, and use of combustible, explosive, and
4 inflammable materials, the use of lighting and heating equipment, and any other business
5 or situation which may be dangerous to persons or property; to regulate and control the
6 conduct of peddlers and itinerant traders, theatrical performances, exhibitions, and shows
7 of any kind, by taxing or otherwise; and to license, tax, regulate, or prohibit professional
8 fortunetelling, palmistry, adult bookstores, adult entertainment, and massage parlors;

9 (38) Special assessments. To levy and provide for the collection of special assessments
10 to cover the costs of any public improvement;

11 (39) Taxes (ad valorem). To levy and provide for the assessment, valuation, revaluation,
12 and collection of taxes on all property subject to taxation; provided, however, that:

13 (A) For all years, the millage rate imposed for ad valorem taxes on real property shall
14 not exceed 4.731 unless a higher limit is recommended by resolution of the city council
15 and approved by a majority of the qualified voters of the city; provided, however, that
16 for the purposes of compliance with Code Section 48-8-91 of the O.C.G.A., the millage
17 rate may be adjusted upward for the sole purpose of complying with the millage rate
18 rollback provisions set forth therein;

19 (B) For all years, the fair market value of all property subject to taxation shall be
20 determined according to the tax digest of Fulton County, as provided in Code Section
21 48-5-352 of the O.C.G.A.; and

22 (C) For all years, the billing date or dates and due date or dates for municipal ad
23 valorem taxes shall be the same as for Fulton County ad valorem taxes;

24 (40) Taxes (other). To levy and collect such other taxes as may be allowed now or in the
25 future by law;

26 (41) Taxicabs. To regulate and license vehicles operated for hire in the city; to limit the
27 number of such vehicles; to require the operators thereof to be licensed; to require public
28 liability insurance on such vehicles in the amounts to be prescribed by ordinance; and to
29 regulate the parking of such vehicles;

30 (42) Urban redevelopment. To organize and operate an urban redevelopment program;
31 and

32 (43) Other powers. To exercise and enjoy all other powers, functions, rights, privileges,
33 and immunities necessary or desirable to promote or protect the safety, health, peace,
34 security, good order, comfort, convenience, or general welfare of the city and its
35 inhabitants; to exercise all implied powers necessary to carry into execution all powers
36 granted in this charter as fully and completely as if such powers were fully stated in this

1 charter; and to exercise all powers now or in the future authorized to be exercised by
2 other municipal governments under other laws of the State of Georgia; and no listing of
3 particular powers in this charter shall be held to be exclusive of others, nor restrictive of
4 general words and phrases granting powers, but shall be held to be in addition to such
5 powers unless expressly prohibited to municipalities under the Constitution or applicable
6 laws of the State of Georgia.

7 **SECTION 1.13.**

8 Exercise of powers.

9 All powers, functions, rights, privileges, and immunities of the city, its officers, agencies, or
10 employees shall be carried into execution as provided by this charter. If this charter makes
11 no provision, such shall be carried into execution as provided by ordinance or as provided
12 by pertinent laws of the State of Georgia.

13 **ARTICLE II**

14 **GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE, ELECTIONS, AND REMOVAL**

15 **SECTION 2.10.**

16 City council creation; composition; number; election.

17 (a) The legislative authority of the government of this city, except as otherwise specifically
18 provided in this charter, shall be vested in a city council to be composed of a mayor and six
19 councilmembers. Each councilmember shall represent a council district. The council
20 districts shall be designated Newtown (No. 1), Ocee (No. 2), Autry Mill (No. 3), Warsaw
21 (No. 4), Johns Creek (No. 5), and Shakerag (No. 6), as described in Appendix B of this Act
22 and the accompanying Redistricting Plan Components Report, which are attached to and
23 made a part of the charter of the City of Riverside. Each person desiring to offer as a
24 candidate for councilmember shall designate the council district for which he or she is
25 offering.

26 (b) The mayor and councilmembers shall serve for terms of four years and until their
27 respective successors are elected and qualified, except as otherwise provided in subsection
28 (d) of Section 2.11 of this charter. No person shall be eligible to serve as mayor or
29 councilmember unless that person is at least 21 years of age and shall have been a resident
30 of the Territory for 12 months immediately preceding his or her election; and each such
31 person shall continue to reside within the city during said period of service and shall be
32 registered and qualified to vote in municipal elections of this city. No person shall be eligible

1 to serve as councilmember representing a district unless that person shall have been a
2 resident of the area within such district for 12 months immediately preceding his or her
3 election, and each district councilmember shall continue to reside within the district he or she
4 represents during such period of service. No person's name shall be listed as a candidate on
5 the ballot for election for either mayor or councilmember unless such person shall file a
6 written notice with the clerk of said city that such person desires his or her name to be placed
7 on said ballot as a candidate either for mayor or councilmember and in the case of a
8 candidate for councilmember designates the district for which he or she is a candidate. No
9 person shall be eligible for the office of mayor or councilmember unless such person shall
10 file said notice within the time provided for in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the
11 "Georgia Election Code."

12 **SECTION 2.11.**

13 Elections.

14 (a) At any election, all persons who are qualified under the Constitution and laws of Georgia
15 to vote for members of the General Assembly of Georgia and who are bona fide residents of
16 the Territory or of said city shall be eligible to qualify as voters in the election.

17 (b) All primaries and elections, including without limitation the special election of 2006 to
18 elect the first mayor and council, shall be held and conducted in accordance with Chapter 2
19 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code." Except as otherwise provided by
20 this charter, the city council shall, by ordinance, prescribe such rules and regulations it deems
21 appropriate to fulfill any options and duties under the "Georgia Election Code."

22 (c) For the purpose of electing members of the council, the City of Riverside shall consist
23 of six council districts, but all elections for the mayor and all councilmembers shall be
24 at-large by the voters of the entire city.

25 (d) The first election for mayor and councilmembers shall be a special election held in 2006
26 on the date specified in subsection (g) of this section. At said election, the mayor and
27 councilmembers elected to Council Districts 1, 3, and 5 shall be elected for initial terms of
28 office beginning immediately after their election and expiring on December 31, 2009. The
29 councilmembers elected to Council Districts 2, 4, and 6 shall be elected for initial terms of
30 office beginning immediately after their election and expiring on December 31, 2007.
31 Thereafter, at the elections provided for by subsection (e) of this section, their successors
32 shall be elected for terms of four years. All members shall serve until their successors are
33 elected and qualified.

(e) A special election shall be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 2006, to elect the first mayor and council as provided in subsection (d) of this section. At such election, the first mayor and council shall be elected to serve for the initial terms of office specified in said subsection (d) of this section. Thereafter, the time for holding regular municipal elections shall be on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year beginning in 2007. The successors to the first mayor and councilmembers and future successors shall be elected at the municipal election immediately preceding the expiration of the respective terms of office and shall take office on the first day of January immediately following their election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

(f) All municipal elections shall be nonpartisan and without primaries.

SECTION 2.12.

Vacancies in office.

(a)(1) The office of mayor or councilmember shall become vacant upon the incumbent's death, resignation, forfeiture of office, or removal from office in any manner authorized by this charter or the general laws of the State of Georgia.

(2) Upon the suspension from office of mayor or councilmember in any manner authorized by the general laws of the State of Georgia, the city council or those remaining shall appoint a successor for the duration of the suspension. If the suspension becomes permanent, then the office shall become vacant and shall be filled as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) In the event that the office of mayor or councilmember shall become vacant, the city council or those remaining shall order a special election to fill the balance of the unexpired term of such official; provided, however, if such vacancy occurs within six months of the expiration of the term of that office, the city council or those members remaining shall appoint a successor for the remainder of the term. In all other respects, the special election shall be held and conducted in accordance with Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code," as now or hereafter amended.

SECTION 2.13.

Election by majority vote.

The candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast for any city office shall be elected.

SECTION 2.14.

Compensation and expenses.

The annual salary of the mayor shall be \$25,000.00 and the annual salary for each councilmember shall be \$15,000.00. Such salary shall be paid from municipal funds in monthly installments. The city council may provide by ordinance for the provision of insurance, retirement, workers' compensation, and other employee benefits to the mayor and members of the city council and may provide by ordinance for the reimbursement of expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the mayor and members of the city council in carrying out their official duties.

SECTION 2.15.

Prohibitions.

(a) No elected official, appointed officer, or employee of the city or any agency or political entity to which this charter applies shall knowingly:

(1) Engage in any business or transaction or have a financial or other personal interest, direct or indirect, which is incompatible with the proper discharge of official duties or which would tend to impair the independence of his or her judgment or action in the performance of official duties;

(2) Engage in or accept private employment or render services for private interests when such employment or service is incompatible with the proper discharge of official duties or would tend to impair the independence of his or her judgment or action in the performance of official duties;

(3) Disclose confidential information concerning the property, government, or affairs of the governmental body by which engaged without proper legal authorization or use such information to advance the financial or other private interest of himself or herself or others;

(4) Accept any valuable gift, whether in the form of service, loan, object, or promise, from any person, firm, or corporation which to his or her knowledge is interested, directly or indirectly, in any manner whatsoever in business dealings with the governmental body by which he or she is engaged; provided, however, that an elected official who is a candidate for public office may accept campaign contributions and services in connection with any such campaign;

(5) Represent other private interests in any action or proceeding against this city or any portion of its government; or

(6) Vote or otherwise participate in the negotiation or in the making of any contract with any business or entity in which he or she has a financial interest.

(b) Any elected official, appointed officer, or employee who has any private financial interest, directly or indirectly, in any contract or matter pending before or within any department of the city shall disclose such private interest to the city council. The mayor or any councilmember who has a private interest in any matter pending before the city council shall disclose such private interest and such disclosure shall be entered on the records of the city council, and he or she shall disqualify himself or herself from participating in any decision or vote relating thereto. Any elected official, appointed officer, or employee of any agency or political entity to which this charter applies who shall have any private financial interest, directly or indirectly, in any contract or matter pending before or within such entity shall disclose such private interest to the governing body of such agency or entity.

(c) No elected official, appointed officer, or employee of the city or any agency or entity to which this charter applies shall use property owned by such governmental entity for personal benefit, convenience, or profit, except in accordance with policies promulgated by the city council or the governing body of such agency or entity.

(d) Any violation of this section which occurs with the knowledge, express or implied, of a party to a contract or sale shall render said contract or sale voidable at the option of the city council.

(e) Except as authorized by law, no member of the council shall hold any other elective city office or other city employment during the term for which elected. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any person holding employment on the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 2.16.

Removal of officers.

(a) The mayor, a councilmember, or other appointed officers provided for in this charter shall be removed from office for any one or more of the following causes:

(1) Incompetence, misfeasance, or malfeasance in office;

(2) Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude;

(3) Failure at any time to possess any qualifications of office as provided by this charter or by law;

(4) Knowingly violating Section 2.15 or any other express prohibition of this charter;

(5) Abandonment of office or neglect to perform the duties thereof; or

(6) Failure for any other cause to perform the duties of office as required by this charter or by state law.

(b) Removal of any officer pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall be accomplished by one of the following methods:

(1) By the vote of five councilmembers after an investigative hearing. In the event an elected officer is sought to be removed by the action of the city council, such officer shall be entitled to a written notice specifying the ground or grounds for removal and to a public hearing which shall be held not less than ten days after the service of such written notice. Any elected officer sought to be removed from office as provided in this section shall have the right of appeal from the decision of the city council to the Superior Court of Fulton County. Such appeal shall be governed by the same rules as govern appeals to the superior court from the probate court; or

(2) By an order of the Superior Court of Fulton County following a hearing on a complaint seeking such removal brought by any resident of the City of Riverside.

ARTICLE III

ORGANIZATION OF GOVERNMENT, GENERAL

AUTHORITY, AND ORDINANCES

SECTION 3.10.

General power and authority.

Except as otherwise provided by this charter, the city council shall be vested with all the powers of government of this city as provided by Article I of this charter.

SECTION 3.11.

Organization.

(a) The city council shall hold an organizational meeting at the first regular meeting in January following an election. The meeting shall be called to order by the city clerk or the mayor-elect if the office of clerk is vacant. The city clerk or any judge shall administer the oaths required by Chapter 3 of Title 45 of the O.C.G.A. and the following oath:

"I do solemnly (swear) (affirm) that I will faithfully perform the duties of (mayor) (councilmember) of this city and that I will support and defend the charter thereof as well as the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia and of the United States of America."

(b) By a majority vote, the city council shall elect a councilmember to serve as mayor pro tempore. The mayor pro tempore shall assume the duties and powers of the mayor during

1 any disability or absence of the mayor. Any such disability or absence shall be declared by
2 a majority vote of the city council.

3 **SECTION 3.12.**

4 Inquiries and investigations.

5 The city council may make inquiries and investigations into the affairs of the city and the
6 conduct of any department, office, or agency thereof and for this purpose may subpoena
7 witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony, and require the production of evidence. Any
8 person who fails or refuses to obey a lawful order issued in the exercise of these powers by
9 the council shall be punished as provided by ordinance.

10 **SECTION 3.13.**

11 Meetings.

12 (a) The city council shall hold regular meetings at such times and places as prescribed by
13 ordinance and shall hold at least one regular meeting each month.

14 (b) Special meetings of the city council may be held on call of the mayor or four members
15 of the city council. Notice of such special meeting shall be served on all other members
16 personally, or by telephone personally, at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Such
17 notice to councilmembers shall not be required if the mayor and all councilmembers are
18 present when the special meeting is called. Such notice of any special meeting may be
19 waived by a councilmember in writing before or after such a meeting and attendance at the
20 meeting shall also constitute a waiver of notice on any business transacted in such
21 councilmember's presence. Only the business stated in the call may be transacted at the
22 special meeting.

23 (c) All meetings of the city council shall be public to the extent required by law and notice
24 to the public of special meetings shall be given as required by law.

25 **SECTION 3.14.**

26 Procedures.

27 (a) The city council shall adopt its rules of procedure and order of business consistent with
28 the provisions of this charter and shall provide for keeping a journal of its proceedings which
29 shall be a public record.

(b) All committees and committee chairpersons and officers of the city council shall be appointed by the mayor.

SECTION 3.15.

Voting.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this section, four councilmembers shall constitute a quorum and shall be authorized to transact the business of the city council. For voting and quorum purposes, the mayor shall be counted as one of the councilmembers. Voting on the adoption of ordinances shall be by voice vote and the vote shall be recorded in the journal, but any member of the city council shall have the right to request a roll-call vote and such vote shall be recorded in the journal. No councilmember shall abstain from voting except in the case of a conflict of interest or if absent when a motion being voted upon was made. The councilmember shall provide a specific explanation of the conflict, and the explanation shall be recorded in the journal.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this charter, the affirmative vote of a majority of the councilmembers present shall be required for the adoption of any ordinance, resolution, or motion.

(c) In the event vacancies in office result in less than a quorum of councilmembers holding office, then the remaining councilmembers in office shall constitute a quorum and shall be authorized to transact business of the city council. A vote of a majority of the remaining councilmembers shall be required for the adoption of any ordinance, resolution, or motion.

SECTION 3.16.

Ordinances.

(a) Every proposed ordinance shall be introduced in writing and in the form required for final adoption. No ordinance shall contain a subject which is not expressed in its title. The enacting clause shall be "The Council of the City of Riverside hereby ordains..." and every ordinance shall so begin.

(b) An ordinance may be introduced by the mayor or any councilmember and be read at a regular or special meeting of the city council. Ordinances shall be considered and adopted or rejected by the city council in accordance with the rules which it shall establish; provided, however, an ordinance shall not be adopted the same day it is introduced, except for emergency ordinances provided for in Section 3.18. Upon introduction of any ordinance, the clerk shall, as soon as possible, distribute a copy to the mayor and to each councilmember

1 and shall file a reasonable number of copies in the office of the clerk and at such other public
2 places as the city council may designate.

3 **SECTION 3.17.**

4 Effect of ordinances.

5 Acts of the city council which have the force and effect of law shall be enacted by ordinance.

6 **SECTION 3.18.**

7 Emergencies.

8 To meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property, or public peace, the city council
9 may convene on call of the mayor or four councilmembers and may promptly adopt an
10 emergency ordinance, but such ordinance shall not levy taxes; grant, renew, or extend a
11 franchise; regulate the rate charged by any public utility for its services; or authorize the
12 borrowing of money except for loans to be repaid within 30 days. An emergency ordinance
13 shall be introduced in the form prescribed for ordinances generally, except that it shall be
14 plainly designated as an emergency ordinance and shall contain, after the enacting clause, a
15 declaration stating that an emergency exists and describing the emergency in clear and
16 specific terms. An emergency ordinance may be adopted, with or without amendment, or
17 rejected at the meeting at which it is introduced, but the affirmative vote of a majority of the
18 councilmembers present shall be required for adoption. It shall become effective upon
19 adoption or at such later time as it may specify. Every emergency ordinance shall
20 automatically stand repealed 30 days following the date upon which it was adopted, but this
21 shall not prevent reenactment of the ordinance in the manner specified in this section if the
22 emergency continues to exist. An emergency ordinance shall also be repealed by adoption
23 of a repealing ordinance in the same manner specified in this section for adoption of
24 emergency ordinances.

25 **SECTION 3.19.**

26 Codes.

27 (a) The city council may adopt any standard code of technical regulations by reference
28 thereto in an adopting ordinance. The procedure and requirements governing such adopting
29 ordinance shall be as prescribed for ordinances generally except that: (1) the requirements
30 of subsection (b) of Section 3.16 of this charter for distribution and filing of copies of the

1 ordinance shall be construed to include copies of any code of technical regulations, as well
2 as the adopting ordinance; and (2) a copy of each adopted code of technical regulations, as
3 well as the adopting ordinance, shall be authenticated and recorded by the clerk pursuant to
4 Section 3.20 of this charter.

5 (b) Copies of any adopted code of technical regulations shall be made available by the clerk
6 for distribution or for purchase at a reasonable price.

7 **SECTION 3.20.**

8 Codification of ordinances.

9 (a) The clerk shall authenticate by the clerk's signature and record in full in a properly
10 indexed book kept for that purpose all ordinances adopted by the council.

11 (b) The city shall provide for the preparation of a general codification of all the ordinances
12 of the city having the force and effect of law. The general codification shall be adopted by
13 the city council by ordinance and shall be published promptly together with all amendments
14 thereto and shall contain such codes of technical regulations and other rules and regulations
15 as the city council may specify. This compilation shall be known and cited officially as "The
16 Code of the City of Riverside, Georgia." Copies of the code shall be furnished to all officers,
17 departments, and agencies of the city and shall be made available for purchase by the public
18 at a reasonable price as fixed by the city council.

19 (c) The city council shall cause each ordinance and each amendment to this charter to be
20 printed promptly following its adoption, and the printed ordinances and charter amendments
21 shall be made available for purchase by the public at reasonable prices to be fixed by the city
22 council. Following publication of the first code under this charter and at all times thereafter,
23 the ordinances and charter amendments shall be printed in substantially the same style as the
24 code then in effect and shall be suitable in form for incorporation within the code. The city
25 council shall make such further arrangements as deemed desirable with reproduction and
26 distribution of any changes in or additions to codes of technical regulations and other rules
27 and regulations included in the code.

28 **SECTION 3.21.**

29 Submission of ordinances to the mayor.

30 (a) Every ordinance, resolution, and other action adopted by the council shall be presented
31 promptly to the mayor for signature. Except for council approval of appointments to
32 committees, boards, and commissions, the employment of any appointed officer, internal

1 affairs, or matters which must be approved by the voters, the mayor may veto any action
2 adopted by the city council.

3 (b) The veto must be exercised no later than the next regular city council meeting following
4 the meeting at which the action was taken. If an action is disapproved, the mayor shall submit
5 to the council a written statement of the reasons for the mayor's veto.

6 (c) An action vetoed by the mayor shall automatically be on the agenda at the next regular
7 meeting of the city council for reconsideration. If the minimum number of councilmembers
8 necessary to vote on overriding the veto are not present, the action may be continued until
9 the next meeting at which the minimum number of councilmembers are present. Such action
10 shall not become effective unless it is readopted by the affirmative votes of at least five
11 councilmembers within 60 days of the veto and for this purpose the mayor shall vote as a
12 councilmember.

13 (d) The mayor may disapprove or reduce any item or items of appropriation in any ordinance
14 or resolution. The approved part or parts of any ordinance or resolution making
15 appropriations shall become law, and the part or parts disapproved or reduced shall not
16 become law unless subsequently passed by the city council over the mayor's veto as provided
17 in this charter.

18 (e) If an ordinance or resolution has been signed by the mayor, it shall become effective. If
19 an ordinance or resolution is neither approved nor disapproved by the next regular meeting
20 of the city council, it shall become effective.

21 **SECTION 3.22.**

22 Powers and duties of the mayor.

23 (a) The mayor shall be the chief executive officer of the city government, a member of and
24 the presiding officer of the city council, and responsible for the efficient and orderly
25 administration of the city's affairs. The mayor shall be responsible for the enforcement of
26 laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, and franchises in the city. The mayor may conduct
27 inquiries and investigations into the conduct of the city's affairs and shall have such powers
28 and duties as specified in this charter or as may be provided by ordinance consistent with this
29 charter.

30 (b) The mayor shall:

31 (1) Preside at all meetings of the city council;

32 (2) Be the head of the city for the purpose of service of process and for ceremonial
33 purposes and be the official spokesperson for the city and the advocate of policy;

(3) Sign as a matter of course on behalf of the city all written and approved contracts, ordinances, resolutions, and other instruments executed by the city which by law are required to be in writing;

(4) See that all laws and ordinances of the city are faithfully executed;

(5) Vote on any motion, resolution, ordinance, or other question before the council and vote on any matter before a committee on which he or she serves;

(6) Obtain short term loans in the name of the city when authorized by the city council to do so;

(7) Appoint city council committees and appoint councilmembers to oversee and report on the functions of the various departments of the city;

(8) Require the city manager to meet with him or her at a time and place designated for consultation and advice upon the affairs of the city;

(9) Name qualified residents of the city to boards and commissions with approval of the city council;

(10) Nominate the city attorney, city clerk, city tax collector, and city accountant, subject to ratification by the city council;

(11) Prepare or have prepared an agenda for each meeting of the city council which shall include all business submitted by the mayor, any councilmember, the city manager, and the city attorney; and

(12) Fulfill and perform such other duties as are imposed by this charter and duly adopted ordinances.

(c) The mayor shall in his or her sole discretion appoint an executive aide to the mayor. The executive aide shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor. The executive aide shall receive a salary comparable to that of city department heads, which salary shall be fixed by the mayor. The executive aide shall report directly to the mayor. The duties and responsibilities of the executive aide shall at all times be as set forth by the mayor. The executive aide shall have the authority, upon the specific request of the mayor, to act on behalf of the mayor in the mayor's ceremonial or administrative capacity. The executive aide shall have no authority to act on behalf of the mayor in a legislative or executive capacity.

SECTION 3.23.

City manager; appointment, qualification, and compensation.

The mayor shall appoint for an indefinite term an officer whose title shall be the "city manager" and the city manager shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor. The city manager shall be appointed without regard to political beliefs and solely on the basis of his or her

1 executive and administrative qualifications with special reference to his or her educational
2 background and actual experience in, and knowledge of, the duties of office as hereinafter
3 prescribed.

4 **SECTION 3.24.**

5 City manager; chief administrative officer.

6 The city manager shall be the chief administrative officer of the government of the City of
7 Riverside. The city manager must devote all of his or her working time and attention to the
8 affairs of the city and shall be responsible to the mayor and council for the proper and
9 efficient administration of the affairs of the city over which said officer has jurisdiction.

10 **SECTION 3.25.**

11 City manager; powers and duties enumerated.

12 The city manager shall have the power, and it shall be his or her duty to:

13 (1) See that all laws and ordinances are enforced;

14 (2) Appoint and employ all necessary employees of the city, provided that excepted from
15 the power of this appointment are those officers and employees who by this Act are
16 appointed or elected by the mayor or council or departments not under the jurisdiction of
17 the city manager;

18 (3) Remove employees employed by said officer without the consent of the council and
19 without assigning any reason therefore;

20 (4) Exercise supervision and control of all departments and all divisions created in this
21 charter or that may hereafter be created by the council except as otherwise provided in
22 this Act;

23 (5) Attend all meetings of the council with a right to take part in the discussions, but
24 having no vote. The city manager shall be entitled to notice of all special meetings;

25 (6) Recommend to the council, after prior review and approval by the mayor, for
26 adoption such measures as the city manager may deem necessary or expedient;

27 (7) See that all terms and conditions imposed in favor of the city or its inhabitants in any
28 public utility franchise are faithfully kept and performed and upon knowledge of any
29 violation thereof to call the same to the attention of the city attorney, whose duty it shall
30 be forthwith to take such steps as are necessary to protect and enforce the same;

31 (8) Make and execute all lawful contracts on behalf of the city as to matters within said
32 officer's jurisdiction to the extent that such contracts are funded in the city's budget,

except such as may be otherwise provided by law; provided, however, that no contract purchase or obligation requiring a budget amendment shall be valid and binding until after approval of the council;

(9) Act as budget officer to prepare and submit to the council, after review and approval by the mayor, prior to the beginning of each fiscal year a budget of proposed expenditures for the ensuing year, showing in as much detail as practicable the amounts allotted to each department of the city government and the reasons for such estimated expenditures;

(10) Keep the council at all times fully advised as to the financial condition and needs of the city;

(11) Make a full written report to the council on the first of each month showing the operations and expenditures of each department of the city government for the preceding month, and a synopsis of such reports shall be published by the clerk of the city;

(12) Fix all salaries and compensation of city employees in accordance with the city budget and the city pay and classification plan; and

(13) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Act or required by ordinance or resolution of the council.

SECTION 3.26.

Council interference with administration.

Except for the purpose of inquiries and investigations under Section 2.08 of this charter, the city council or its members shall deal with city officers and employees who are subject to the direction or supervision of the manager solely through the manager, and neither the city council nor its members shall give orders to any such officer or employee, either publicly or privately.

SECTION 3.27.

Selection of mayor pro tempore.

There shall be a mayor pro tempore elected from among the councilmembers by the city council. The initial mayor pro tempore shall serve for a term expiring December 31, 2007, and successors shall serve for terms of four years. The mayor pro tempore shall continue to vote and otherwise participate as a councilmember. A vacancy in the position of mayor pro tempore resulting from the mayor pro tempore ceasing to serve as a councilmember or from any other cause shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original election.

SECTION 3.28.

Mayor pro tempore.

During the absence or physical or mental disability of the mayor for any cause, the mayor pro tempore of the city council, or in such person's absence or disability for any reason, any one of the councilmembers chosen by a majority vote of the city council, shall be clothed with all the rights and privileges of the mayor and shall perform the duties of the office of the mayor so long as such absence or disability shall continue. A councilmember acting as mayor shall have only one vote. A councilmember acting as mayor shall have veto power in the case of disability of the mayor but not in the case of absence of the mayor. Any such absence or disability shall be declared by majority vote of all councilmembers. The mayor pro tempore or selected councilmember shall sign all contracts and ordinances in which the mayor has a disqualifying financial interest.

ARTICLE IV**ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS****SECTION 4.10.**

Department heads.

(a) Except for the offices of city manager and executive aide to the mayor, the council, by ordinance, may establish, abolish, merge, or consolidate nonelective offices, positions of employment, departments, and agencies of the city as they shall deem necessary for the proper administration of the affairs and government of the city. The council shall prescribe the functions and duties of existing departments, offices, and agencies or of any departments, offices, and agencies hereinafter created or established; may provide that the same person shall fill any number of offices and positions of employment; and may transfer or change the functions and duties of offices, positions of employment, departments, and agencies of the city. The council may also contract with private or governmental parties for the performance of the functions of any such offices, departments, or agencies.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by this charter or by law, the directors of departments and other officers of the city shall be appointed solely on the basis of their respective administrative and professional qualifications.

(c) All appointed officers and directors of departments shall receive such compensation as prescribed by the city council.

(d) There shall be a director of each department or agency who shall be its principal officer. Each director shall, subject to the direction and supervision of the city manager, be

1 responsible for the administration and direction of the affairs and operations of the director's
2 department or agency.

3 (e) The city manager may suspend directors. The director involved may appeal to the city
4 council which, after a hearing, may override the suspension. Any removal of a director shall
5 be by the city council.

6 **SECTION 4.11.**

7 **Boards.**

8 (a) The city council shall create by ordinance such boards, commissions, and authorities to
9 fulfill any investigative, quasi-judicial, or quasi-legislative function the city council deems
10 necessary and shall by ordinance establish the composition, period of existence, duties, and
11 powers thereof.

12 (b) All members of boards, commissions, and authorities of the city shall be appointed by
13 the mayor subject to approval by the city council for such terms of office and in such manner
14 as shall be provided by ordinance, except where other appointing authority, terms of office,
15 or manner of appointment is prescribed by this charter or by law.

16 (c) The city council, by ordinance, may provide for the compensation and reimbursement for
17 actual and necessary expenses of the members of any board, commission, or authority.

18 (d) Except as otherwise provided by charter or by law, no member of any board,
19 commission, or authority shall hold any elective office in the city.

20 (e) Any vacancy on a board, commission, or authority of the city shall be filled for the
21 unexpired term in the manner prescribed for the original appointment, except as otherwise
22 provided by this charter or by law.

23 (f) No member of a board, commission, or authority shall assume office until he or she has
24 executed and filed with the clerk of the city an oath obligating himself or herself to perform
25 faithfully and impartially the duties of the office, such oath to be prescribed by ordinance and
26 administered by the mayor.

27 (g) Any member of a board, commission, or authority may be removed from office for cause
28 by a vote of the city council.

29 (h) Except as otherwise provided by this charter or by law, each board, commission, or
30 authority of the city shall elect one of its members as chairperson and one member as
31 vice-chairperson, and may elect as its secretary one of its members or may appoint as
32 secretary an employee of the city. Each board, commission, or authority of the city
33 government may establish such bylaws, rules, and regulations, not inconsistent with this
34 charter, an ordinance of the city, or law, as it deems appropriate and necessary for the

1 fulfillment of its duties or the conduct of its affairs. Copies of such bylaws, rules, and
2 regulations shall be filed with the clerk of the city.

3 **SECTION 4.12.**

4 City attorney.

5 The mayor shall nominate a city attorney subject to ratification by the council who shall be
6 a member of the State Bar of Georgia and shall have actively practiced law for at least one
7 year. The city attorney shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor. The city attorney shall be
8 responsible for representing and defending the city in all litigation in which the city is a party,
9 may be the prosecuting officer in the municipal court, shall attend the meetings of the council
10 as directed, shall advise the city council, mayor, and other officers and employees of the city
11 concerning legal aspects of the city's affairs, and shall perform such other duties as may be
12 required by virtue of the position of city attorney. The city council shall provide for the
13 compensation of the city attorney.

14 **SECTION 4.13.**

15 City clerk.

16 The mayor shall nominate a city clerk who shall not be a councilmember subject to
17 ratification by the council. The city clerk shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor. The city
18 clerk shall be custodian of the official city seal, maintain city council records required by this
19 charter, and perform such other duties as may be required by the city council. The city
20 council shall provide for the compensation of the city clerk.

21 **SECTION 4.14.**

22 City tax collector.

23 The mayor shall nominate a city tax collector subject to ratification by the council. The city
24 tax collector shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor. The city tax collector shall collect all
25 taxes, licenses, fees, and other moneys belonging to the city subject to the provisions of this
26 charter and the ordinances of the city and to enforce all laws of Georgia relating to the
27 collection of delinquent taxes and sale or foreclosure for nonpayment of taxes to the city.
28 The city council shall provide for the compensation of the city tax collector.

29 **SECTION 4.15.**

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1 City accountant.

2 The mayor shall nominate a city accountant subject to ratification by the council. The city
3 accountant shall serve at the pleasure of the mayor. The city council shall provide for the
4 compensation of the city accountant.

5 **SECTION 4.16.**

6 Rules and regulations.

7 The city council shall adopt rules and regulations consistent with this charter concerning:

8 (1) The method of employee selection and probationary periods of employment;

9 (2) The administration of a position classification and pay plan, methods of promotion
10 and applications of service ratings thereto, and transfer of employees within the
11 classification plan;

12 (3) Hours of work, vacation, sick leave, and other leaves of absence, overtime pay, and
13 the order and manner in which layoffs shall be effected;

14 (4) Such dismissal hearings as due process may require; and

15 (5) Such other personnel notices as may be necessary to provide for adequate and
16 systematic handling of personnel affairs.

17 **ARTICLE V**

18 **JUDICIAL BRANCH**

19 **SECTION 5.10.**

20 Municipal court.

21 There shall be a court to be known as the Municipal Court of the City of Riverside.

22 **SECTION 5.11.**

23 Judges.

24 (a) The municipal court shall be presided over by a chief judge and such part-time, full-time,
25 or stand-by judges as shall be provided by ordinance. The chief judge shall be appointed by
26 resolution of the city council and the method of selection and terms of any other judges shall
27 be provided by ordinance.

(b) No person shall be qualified or eligible to serve as a judge on the municipal court unless that person shall have attained the age of 21 years and shall have been a member of the State Bar of Georgia for a minimum of three years.

(c) Compensation of the chief judge and other judges shall be fixed by the city council. The position of chief judge shall not be a full-time position, and the person serving as chief judge may engage in the private practice of law.

(d) The chief judge shall serve a term of four years, coincident with the term of the mayor, but may be removed for cause by a vote of five members of the city council or upon action taken by the Judicial Qualification Commission.

(e) Before assuming office, each judge shall take an oath, given by the mayor, that the judge will honestly and faithfully discharge the duties of the office to the best of his or her ability and without fear, favor, or partiality. The oath shall be entered upon the minutes of the city council journal required in Section 3.14 of this charter.

SECTION 5.12.

Convening of court.

The municipal court shall be convened at regular intervals as provided by ordinance.

SECTION 5.13.

Powers.

(a) The municipal court shall try and punish violations of this charter, all city ordinances, and such other violations as provided by law.

(b) The municipal court shall have the authority to punish those in its presence for contempt, provided that such punishment shall not exceed the statutory limits for fines and imprisonment for such municipal court.

(c) The municipal court may fix punishment for offenses within its jurisdiction, including both fines and imprisonment or alternative sentencing, provided that such fines or imprisonment does not exceed the statutory limits as now exist or hereafter provided by law.

(d) The municipal court shall have the authority to establish a schedule of fees to defray the cost of operation and shall be entitled to reimbursement of the actual cost of meals, transportation, and caretaking of prisoners bound over to superior courts for violation of state law.

(e) The municipal court shall have authority to establish bail and recognizances to ensure the presence of those charged with violations before said court and shall have discretionary

1 authority to accept cash or personal or real property as surety bond for the appearance of
2 persons charged with violations. Whenever any person shall give bail for appearance and
3 shall fail to appear at the time fixed for trial, the bond shall be forfeited by the judge
4 presiding at such time and an execution shall be issued thereon by serving the defendant and
5 his or her sureties with a rule nisi at least two days before a hearing on the rule nisi.

6 (f) The municipal court shall have the same authority as superior courts to compel the
7 production of evidence in the possession of any party; to enforce obedience to its orders,
8 judgments, and sentences; and to administer such oaths as are necessary.

9 (g) The municipal court shall have the authority to bind prisoners over to the appropriate
10 court when it appears by probable cause that state law has been violated.

11 (h) Each judge of the municipal court may compel the presence of all parties necessary to
12 a proper disposal of each case by the issuance of summonses, subpoenas, and warrants which
13 may be served as executed by any officer as authorized by this charter or by law.

14 (i) Each judge of the municipal court shall be authorized to issue warrants for the arrest of
15 persons charged with offenses against any ordinance of the city, and each judge of the
16 municipal court shall have the same authority as a magistrate of the state to issue warrants
17 for offenses against state laws committed within the city.

18 (j) The municipal court is specifically vested with all the jurisdiction and powers throughout
19 the geographic area of this city granted by law to municipal courts and particularly by such
20 laws as authorize the abatement of nuisances and prosecution of traffic violations.

21 **SECTION 5.14.**

22 **Certiorari.**

23 The right of certiorari from the decision and judgment of the municipal court shall exist in
24 all criminal cases and ordinance violation cases, and such certiorari shall be obtained under
25 the sanction of a judge of the Superior Court of Fulton County, under the laws of the State
26 of Georgia regulating the granting and issuance of writs of certiorari.

27 **SECTION 5.15.**

28 **Rules.**

29 With the approval of the city council, the judge shall have full power and authority to make
30 reasonable rules and regulations necessary and proper to secure the efficient and successful
31 administration of the municipal court; provided, however, that the city council may adopt in
32 part or in toto the rules and regulations applicable to superior courts. The rules and

1 regulations made or adopted shall be filed with the city clerk, shall be available for public
2 inspection, and, upon request, shall be furnished to all defendants in municipal court
3 proceedings at least 48 hours prior to said proceedings.

4 **ARTICLE VI**

5 **FINANCE**

6 **SECTION 6.10.**

7 **Property tax.**

8 The city council may assess, levy, and collect an ad valorem tax on all real and personal
9 property within the corporate limits of the city that is subject to such taxation by the state and
10 county. This tax is for the purpose of raising revenues to defray the costs of operating the city
11 government, of providing governmental services, for the repayment of principal and interest
12 on general obligations, and for any other public purpose as determined by the city council in
13 its discretion.

14 **SECTION 6.11.**

15 **Millage.**

16 (a) The city council by ordinance shall establish a millage rate for the city property tax, a due
17 date, and the time period within which these taxes must be paid. The city council by
18 ordinance may provide for the payment of these taxes by installments or in one lump sum,
19 as well as authorize the voluntary payment of taxes prior to the time when due.

20 (b) For all years, the millage rate imposed for ad valorem taxes on real property shall not
21 exceed 4.731, unless a higher millage rate is recommended by resolution of the city council
22 and subsequently approved by a majority of the eligible voters of the city by referendum.
23 This millage rate limit shall apply to the millage rate actually levied and shall not apply to
24 the hypothetical millage rate computed under subsection (a) of Code Section 48-8-91 of the
25 O.C.G.A., relating to conditions on imposition of the joint county and municipal sales tax.

26 **SECTION 6.12.**

27 **Occupation taxes and business license fees.**

28 The city council by ordinance shall have the power to levy such occupation or business taxes
29 as are not denied by law. Such taxes may be levied on both individuals and corporations who
30 transact business in this city or who practice or offer to practice any profession or calling

1 within the city to the extent such persons have a constitutionally sufficient nexus to this city
2 to be so taxed. The city council may classify businesses, occupations, professions, or callings
3 for the purpose of such taxation in any way which may be lawful and may compel the
4 payment of such taxes as provided in Section 6.18 of this charter.

5 **SECTION 6.13.**

6 Licenses.

7 The city council by ordinance shall have the power to require any individual or corporation
8 who transacts business in this city or who practices or offers to practice any profession or
9 calling within the city to obtain a license or permit for such activity from the city and pay a
10 reasonable fee for such license or permit where such activities are not now regulated by
11 general law in such a way as to preclude city regulations. Such fees may reflect the total cost
12 to the city of regulating the activity and, if unpaid, shall be collected as provided in Section
13 6.18 of this charter. The city council by ordinance may establish reasonable requirements
14 for obtaining or keeping such licenses as the public health, safety, and welfare necessitate.

15 **SECTION 6.14.**

16 Franchises.

17 The city council shall have the power to grant franchises for the use of this city's streets and
18 alleys for the purposes of railroads, street railways, telephone companies, electric companies,
19 cable television companies, gas companies, transportation companies, and other similar
20 organizations. The city council shall determine the duration, terms, whether the same shall
21 be exclusive or nonexclusive, and the consideration for such franchises; provided, however,
22 that no franchise shall be granted for a period in excess of 35 years and no franchise shall be
23 granted unless the city receives just and adequate compensation therefor. The city council
24 shall provide for the registration of all franchises with the city clerk in a registration book
25 kept by the clerk. The city council may provide by ordinance for the registration within a
26 reasonable time of all franchises previously granted.

27 **SECTION 6.15.**

28 Utilities/infrastructure fees.

29 The city council by ordinance shall have the power to assess and collect fees, charges, and
30 tolls for sewers, sanitary and health services, or any other services provided or made

1 available inside or outside the corporate limits of the city for the total cost to the city of
2 providing or making available such services. If unpaid, such charges shall be collected as
3 provided in Section 6.18 of this charter.

4 **SECTION 6.16.**

5 Roads.

6 The city council by ordinance shall have the power to assess, charge, and collect the costs of
7 constructing, reconstructing, widening, or improving any public way, street, sidewalk,
8 curbing, gutters, sewers, or other utility mains and appurtenances from the abutting property
9 owners under such terms and conditions as are reasonable. If unpaid, such charges shall be
10 collected as provided in Section 6.18 of this charter.

11 **SECTION 6.17.**

12 Other taxes.

13 This city shall be empowered to levy any other tax allowed now or hereafter by law, and the
14 specific mention of any right, power, or authority in this article shall not be construed as
15 limiting in any way the general powers of this city to govern its local affairs.

16 **SECTION 6.18.**

17 Collection of delinquent taxes.

18 The city council by ordinance may provide generally for the collection of delinquent taxes,
19 fees, or other revenue due the city under Sections 6.10 through 6.17 of this charter by
20 whatever reasonable means as are not precluded by law. This shall include providing for the
21 dates when the taxes or fees are due, late penalties or interest, issuance and execution of fi.
22 fas., creation and priority of liens, making delinquent taxes and fees personal debts of the
23 persons required to pay the taxes or fees imposed, revoking city licenses for failure to pay
24 any city taxes or fees, and providing for the assignment or transfer of tax executions.

25 **SECTION 6.19.**

26 Borrowing.

27 The city council shall have the power to issue bonds for the purpose of raising revenue to
28 carry out any project, program, or venture authorized under this charter or the laws of the

1 state. Such bonding authority shall be exercised in accordance with the laws governing bond
2 issuance by municipalities in effect at the time said issue is undertaken.

3 **SECTION 6.20.**

4 Revenue bonds.

5 Revenue bonds may be issued by the city council as state law now or hereafter provides.
6 Such bonds are to be paid out of any revenue produced by the project, program, or venture
7 for which they were issued.

8 **SECTION 6.21.**

9 Loans.

10 The city may obtain short-term loans and must repay such loans not later than December 31
11 of each year, unless otherwise provided by law.

12 **SECTION 6.22.**

13 Accounting and budgeting.

14 The city council shall set the fiscal year by ordinance. This fiscal year shall constitute the
15 budget year and the year for financial accounting and reporting of each and every office,
16 department, agency, and activity of the city government.

17 **SECTION 6.23.**

18 Budget ordinance.

19 The city council shall provide an ordinance on the procedures and requirements for the
20 preparation and execution of an annual operating budget, a capital improvement program,
21 and a capital budget, including requirements as to the scope, content, and form of such
22 budgets and programs. The city council shall comply with the provisions of Chapter 81 of
23 Title 36 of the O.C.G.A.

24 **SECTION 6.24.**

25 Operating budget.

1 On or before a date fixed by the city council but not later than 60 days prior to the beginning
2 of each fiscal year, the city manager shall submit to the city council a proposed operating
3 budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall be accompanied by a message from the
4 city manager containing a statement of the general fiscal policies of the city, the important
5 features of the budget, explanations of major changes recommended for the next fiscal year,
6 a general summary of the budget, and such other comments and information as the city
7 manager may deem pertinent. The operating budget, the capital improvements budget, the
8 budget message, and all supporting documents shall be filed in the office of the city clerk and
9 shall be open to public inspection.

10 **SECTION 6.25.**

11 Adoption.

12 (a) The city council may amend the operating budget proposed by the city manager, except
13 that the budget as finally amended and adopted must provide for all expenditures required
14 by state law or by other provisions of this charter and for all debt service requirements for
15 the ensuing fiscal year. The total appropriations from any fund shall not exceed the estimated
16 fund balance, reserves, and revenues.

17 (b) After the conducting of a budget hearing, the city council shall adopt the final operating
18 budget for the ensuing fiscal year on or before a date fixed by ordinance of the council. If the
19 city council fails to adopt the budget by said date, the amounts appropriated for operation for
20 the then current fiscal year shall be deemed adopted for the ensuing fiscal year on a
21 month-to-month basis, with all items prorated accordingly, until such time as the city council
22 adopts a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. Adoption of the budget shall take the form of an
23 appropriations ordinance setting out the estimated revenues in detail by sources and making
24 appropriations according to fund and by organizational unit, purpose, or activity as set out
25 in the budget preparation ordinance adopted pursuant to Section 6.23 of this charter.

26 (c) The amount set out in the adopted operating budget for each organizational unit shall
27 constitute the annual appropriation for such, and no expenditure shall be made or
28 encumbrance created in excess of the otherwise unencumbered balance of the appropriations
29 or allotments thereof to which it is chargeable.

SECTION 6.26.

Levy of taxes.

Following adoption of the operating budget, the city council shall levy by ordinance such taxes as are necessary. The taxes and tax rates set by such ordinance shall be such that reasonable estimates of revenues from such levy shall at least be sufficient, together with other anticipated revenues, fund balances, and applicable reserves, to equal the total amount appropriated for each of the several funds set forth in the annual operating budget for defraying the expense of the general government of this city.

SECTION 6.27.

Changes in budget.

The city council by majority vote may make changes in the appropriations contained in the current operating budget at any regular meeting or special or emergency meeting called for such purposes.

SECTION 6.28.

Capital improvements.

(a) On or before the date fixed by the city council, but not later than 60 days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the city manager shall submit to the city council a proposed capital improvements budget with any recommendations as to the means of financing the improvements proposed for the ensuing year. The city council shall have the power to accept, with or without amendments, or reject the proposed program and proposed means of financing. The city council shall not authorize an expenditure for the construction of any building, structure, work, or improvement, unless the appropriations for such project are included in the capital improvements budget, except to meet a public emergency as provided in Section 3.17 of this charter.

(b) After the conducting of a public hearing, the city council shall adopt by ordinance the final capital improvements budget for the ensuing fiscal year on or before a date fixed by ordinance of the council. No appropriations provided for in a prior capital improvements budget shall lapse until the purpose for which the appropriations were made shall have been accomplished or abandoned; provided, however, the mayor may submit amendments to the capital improvements budget at any time during the fiscal year, accompanied by any

1 recommendations. Any such amendments to the capital improvements budget shall become
2 effective only upon adoption by majority vote of the city council.

3 **SECTION 6.29.**

4 Audits.

5 There shall be an annual independent audit of all city accounts, funds, and financial
6 transactions by a certified public accountant selected by the city council. The audit shall be
7 conducted according to generally accepted accounting principles. Any audit of any funds by
8 the state or federal government may be accepted as satisfying the requirements of this
9 charter. Copies of all audit reports shall be available at printing costs to the public.

10 **SECTION 6.30.**

11 Procurement and property management.

12 No contract with the city shall be binding on the city unless:

13 (1) It is in writing;

14 (2) It is drawn or submitted and reviewed by the city attorney and, as a matter of course,
15 is signed by the city attorney to indicate such drafting or review; and

16 (3) It is made or authorized by the city council and such approval is entered in the city
17 council journal of proceedings pursuant to Section 3.14 of this charter.

18 **SECTION 6.31.**

19 Purchasing.

20 The city council shall by ordinance prescribe procedures for a system of centralized
21 purchasing for the city.

22 **SECTION 6.32.**

23 Sale of property.

24 (a) The city council may sell and convey any real or personal property owned or held by the
25 city for governmental or other purposes as now or hereafter provided by law, as well as any
26 abandoned or surplus property.

27 (b) The city council may quitclaim any rights it may have in property not needed for public
28 purposes upon request by the mayor and adoption of a resolution, both finding that the

property is not needed for public or other purposes and that the interest of the city has no readily ascertainable monetary value.

(c) Whenever in opening, extending, or widening any street, avenue, alley, or public place of the city a small parcel or tract of land is cut off or separated by such work from a larger tract or boundary of land owned by the city, the city council may authorize the mayor to execute and deliver in the name of the city a deed conveying said cut-off or separated parcel or tract of land to an abutting or adjoining property owner or owners in exchange for rights of way of said street, avenue, alley, or public place when such exchange is deemed to be in the best interest of the city. All deeds and conveyances heretofore and hereafter so executed and delivered shall convey all title and interest the city has in such property, notwithstanding the fact that no public sale after advertisement was or is hereafter made.

SECTION 6.33.

General homestead exemption.

(a) As used in this section, the term:

(1) "Ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes" means all ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes levied by, for, or on behalf of the City of Riverside, except for any ad valorem taxes to pay interest on and to retire municipal bonded indebtedness.

(2) "Homestead" means homestead as defined and qualified in Code Section 48-5-40 of the O.C.G.A., as amended.

(b) Each resident of the City of Riverside is granted an exemption on that person's homestead from City of Riverside ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in the amount of \$15,000.00 of the assessed value of that homestead. The value of that property in excess of such exempted amount shall remain subject to taxation.

(c) A person shall not receive the homestead exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section unless the person or person's agent files an application with the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, giving such information relative to receiving such exemption as will enable the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, to make a determination regarding the initial and continuing eligibility of such owner for such exemption. The governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, shall provide application forms for this purpose.

(d) The exemption shall be claimed and returned as provided in Code Section 48-5-50.1 of the O.C.G.A., as amended. The exemption shall be automatically renewed from year to year so long as the owner occupies the residence as a homestead. After a person has filed the proper application, as provided in subsection (c) of this section, it shall not be necessary to

1 make application thereafter for any year and the exemption shall continue to be allowed to
2 such person. It shall be the duty of any person granted the homestead exemption under
3 subsection (b) of this section to notify the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the
4 designee thereof, in the event that person for any reason becomes ineligible for that
5 exemption.

6 (e) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to or affect state
7 ad valorem taxes, county ad valorem taxes for county purposes, or county or independent
8 school district ad valorem taxes for educational purposes. The homestead exemption granted
9 by subsection (b) of this section shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any other homestead
10 exemption applicable to municipal ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes.

11 (f) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall apply to all taxable years
12 beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

13 **SECTION 6.34.**

14 General homestead exemption for citizens age 65 or over.

15 (a) As used in this section, the term:

16 (1) "Ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes" means all ad valorem taxes for municipal
17 purposes levied by, for, or on behalf of the City of Riverside except for any ad valorem
18 taxes to pay interest on and to retire municipal bonded indebtedness.

19 (2) "Homestead" means homestead as defined and qualified in Code Section 48-5-40 of
20 the O.C.G.A., as amended.

21 (3) "Senior citizen" means a person who is 65 years of age or over on or before January
22 1 of the year in which application for the exemption under subsection (b) of this section
23 is made.

24 (b) Each resident of the City of Riverside who is a senior citizen is granted an exemption on
25 that person's homestead from City of Riverside ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in
26 the amount of \$15,000.00 of the assessed value of that homestead. The value of that property
27 in excess of such exempted amount shall remain subject to taxation.

28 (c) A person shall not receive the homestead exemption granted by subsection (b) of this
29 section unless the person or person's agent files an application with the governing authority
30 of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, giving the person's age and such additional
31 information relative to receiving such exemption as will enable the governing authority of
32 the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, to make a determination regarding the initial
33 and continuing eligibility of such owner for such exemption. The governing authority of the
34 City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, shall provide application forms for this purpose.

(d) The exemption shall be claimed and returned as provided in Code Section 48-5-50.1 of the O.C.G.A., as amended. The exemption shall be automatically renewed from year to year so long as the owner occupies the residence as a homestead. After a person has filed the proper application, as provided in subsection (c) of this section, it shall not be necessary to make application thereafter for any year and the exemption shall continue to be allowed to such person. It shall be the duty of any person granted the homestead exemption under subsection (b) of this section to notify the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, in the event that person for any reason becomes ineligible for that exemption.

(e) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to or affect state ad valorem taxes, county ad valorem taxes for county purposes, or county or independent school district ad valorem taxes for educational purposes. The homestead exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any other homestead exemption applicable to municipal ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes.

(f) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall apply to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

SECTION 6.35.

Homestead exemption for citizens age 65 or over
meeting certain income requirements.

(a) As used in this section, the term:

(1) "Ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes" means all ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes levied by, for, or on behalf of the City of Riverside, including, but not limited to, any ad valorem taxes to pay interest on and to retire municipal bonded indebtedness.

(2) "Homestead" means homestead as defined and qualified in Code Section 48-5-40 of the O.C.G.A., as amended.

(3) "Income" means adjusted gross income as such term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as such code is defined in Code Section 48-1-2 of the O.C.G.A., except that for purposes of this section the term shall include only that portion of income or benefits received as retirement, survivor, or disability benefits under the federal Social Security Act or under any other public or private retirement, disability, or pension system which exceeds the maximum amount which may be received by an individual and an individual's spouse under the federal Social Security Act.

1 (4) "Senior citizen" means a person who is 65 years of age or over on or before January
2 1 of the year in which application for the exemption under subsection (b) of this section
3 is made.

4 (b) Each resident of the City of Riverside who is a senior citizen is granted an exemption on
5 that person's homestead from City of Riverside ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes in
6 the amount of \$10,000.00 of the assessed value of that homestead. The exemption granted
7 by this subsection shall only be granted if that person's income, together with the income of
8 the spouse who also occupies and resides at such homestead does not exceed the maximum
9 amount which may be received by an individual and an individual's spouse under the federal
10 Social Security Act for the immediately preceding year. The value of that property in excess
11 of such exempted amount shall remain subject to taxation.

12 (c) A person shall not receive the homestead exemption granted by subsection (b) of this
13 section unless the person or person's agent files an application with the governing authority
14 of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, giving the person's age, income, and such
15 additional information relative to receiving such exemption as will enable the governing
16 authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, to make a determination regarding
17 the initial and continuing eligibility of such owner for such exemption. The governing
18 authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, shall provide application forms
19 for this purpose.

20 (d) The exemption shall be claimed and returned as provided in Code Section 48-5-50.1 of
21 the O.C.G.A., as amended. The exemption shall be automatically renewed from year to year
22 so long as the owner occupies the residence as a homestead. After a person has filed the
23 proper application, as provided in subsection (c) of this section, it shall not be necessary to
24 make application thereafter for any year and the exemption shall continue to be allowed to
25 such person. It shall be the duty of any person granted the homestead exemption under
26 subsection (b) of this section to notify the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or
27 the designee thereof, in the event that person for any reason becomes ineligible for that
28 exemption.

29 (e) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to or affect state
30 ad valorem taxes, county ad valorem taxes for county purposes, or county or independent
31 school district ad valorem taxes for educational purposes. The homestead exemption granted
32 by subsection (b) of this section shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any other homestead
33 exemption applicable to municipal ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes.

34 (f) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall apply to all taxable years
35 beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

SECTION 6.36.

Homestead exemption for citizens age 70 or over
and disabled persons meeting certain income requirements.

(a) As used in this section, the term:

(1) "Ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes" means all ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes levied by, for, or on behalf of the City of Riverside, including, but not limited to, any ad valorem taxes to pay interest on and to retire municipal bonded indebtedness.

(2) "Homestead" means homestead as defined and qualified in Code Section 48-5-40 of the O.C.G.A., as amended.

(3) "Income" means adjusted gross income determined pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, for federal income tax purposes, except that for the purposes of this section the term shall include only that portion of income or benefits received as retirement, survivor, or disability benefits under the federal Social Security Act or under any other public or private retirement, disability, or pension system which exceeds the maximum amount which may be received by an individual and an individual's spouse under the federal Social Security Act.

(4) "Senior citizen" means a person who is 70 years of age or over on or before January 1 of the year in which application for the exemption under subsection (b) of this section is made.

(b) Each resident of the City of Riverside who is a senior citizen or who is disabled is granted an exemption on that person's homestead from City of Riverside ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes for the full value of that homestead. The exemption granted by this subsection shall only be granted if that person's income, together with the income of the spouse who also occupies and resides at such homestead does not exceed the maximum amount which may be received by an individual and an individual's spouse under the federal Social Security Act for the immediately preceding year.

(c)(1) In order to qualify for the exemption provided for in subsection (b) of this section as being disabled, the person claiming such exemption shall be required to obtain a certificate from not more than three physicians licensed to practice medicine under Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the O.C.G.A., as amended, certifying that in the opinion of such physician or physicians such person is mentally or physically incapacitated to the extent that such person is unable to be gainfully employed and that such incapacity is likely to be permanent. Such certificate or certificates shall constitute part of and be submitted with the application provided for in paragraph (2) of this subsection.

(2) A person shall not receive the homestead exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section unless the person or person's agent files an application with the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, giving the person's age, income, and such additional information relative to receiving such exemption as will enable the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, to make a determination regarding the initial and continuing eligibility of such owner for such exemption. The governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, shall provide application forms for this purpose.

(d) The exemption shall be claimed and returned as provided in Code Section 48-5-50.1 of the O.C.G.A., as amended. The exemption shall be automatically renewed from year to year so long as the owner occupies the residence as a homestead. After a person has filed the proper application, as provided in subsection (c) of this section, it shall not be necessary to make application thereafter for any year and the exemption shall continue to be allowed to such person. It shall be the duty of any person granted the homestead exemption under subsection (b) of this section to notify the governing authority of the City of Riverside, or the designee thereof, in the event that person for any reason becomes ineligible for that exemption.

(e) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to or affect state ad valorem taxes, county ad valorem taxes for county purposes, or county or independent school district ad valorem taxes for educational purposes. The homestead exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any other homestead exemption applicable to municipal ad valorem taxes for municipal purposes.

(f) The exemption granted by subsection (b) of this section shall apply to all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

ARTICLE VII

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 7.10.

Bonds for officials.

The officers and employees of this city, both elected and appointed, shall execute such surety or fidelity bonds in such amounts and upon such terms and conditions as the city council shall from time to time require by ordinance or as may be provided by law.

SECTION 7.11.

Charter language on other general matters.

1 Except as specifically provided otherwise by this charter, all rights, claims, actions, orders,
2 contracts, and legal or administrative proceedings shall continue and any such ongoing work
3 or cases shall be completed by such city agencies, personnel, or offices as may be provided
4 by the city council.

5 **SECTION 7.12.**

6 Definitions and construction.

7 (a) Section captions in this charter are informative only and shall not be considered as a part
8 thereof.

9 (b) The word "shall" is mandatory and the word "may" is permissive.

10 (c) The singular shall include the plural, the masculine shall include the feminine, and vice
11 versa.

12 **SECTION 7.13.**

13 Qualified electors.

14 (a) For the purposes of the referendum election provided for in Section 7.14 of this charter
15 and for the purposes of the special election to be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday
16 in November, 2006, the qualified electors of the City of Riverside shall be those qualified
17 electors of Fulton County residing within the corporate limits of the City of Riverside as
18 described by Section 1.11 of this charter. At subsequent municipal elections, the qualified
19 electors of the City of Riverside shall be determined pursuant to the authority of Chapter 2
20 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., known as the "Georgia Election Code."

21 (b) Only for the purpose of holding and conducting the referendum election provided for by
22 Section 7.14 of this charter and only for the purpose of holding and conducting the special
23 election of the City of Riverside to be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in
24 November, 2006, the election superintendent of Fulton County is vested with the powers and
25 duties of the election superintendent of the City of Riverside and the powers and duties of
26 the governing authority of the City of Riverside.

27 **SECTION 7.14.**

28 Referendum.

29 Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the election
30 superintendent of Fulton County shall call a special election for the purpose of submitting

1 this Act to the qualified voters of the proposed City of Riverside, as provided in Section 7.13
2 of this charter, for approval or rejection. The superintendent shall set the date of such
3 election for the date of the general primary in 2006. The superintendent shall issue the call
4 for such election at least 30 days prior to the date thereof. The superintendent shall cause the
5 date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately
6 preceding the date thereof in the official organ of Fulton County. The ballot shall have
7 written or printed thereon the words:

8 "() YES Shall the creation of the City of Riverside and the granting of the homestead

9 () NO exemptions described in the Act creating the City of Riverside be
10 approved?"

11 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and those persons
12 desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes
13 cast on such question are for approval of the Act, it shall become of full force and effect;
14 otherwise, it shall thereafter be void and of no force and effect.

15 The expense of the special election set forth in this section shall be borne by Fulton County.
16 It shall be the duty of the superintendent to hold and conduct such election. It shall be his or
17 her further duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

18 **SECTION 7.15.**

19 Effective dates.

20 (a) Sections 1.10 and 1.11 of this Act and those provisions of the Act necessary for the
21 special election provided for in Section 7.14 of this charter shall become effective
22 immediately upon this Act's approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without
23 such approval.

24 (b) Those provisions of this Act necessary for the special election to be held on the Tuesday
25 after the first Monday in November, 2006, as provided by Article II of this charter shall be
26 effective upon the certification of the results of the referendum election provided for by
27 Section 7.14 of this charter, if this Act is approved at such referendum election.

28 (c) The remaining provisions of this Act shall become of full force and effect for all
29 purposes on December 1, 2006, except that the initial mayor and councilmembers shall take
30 office immediately following their election and by action of a quorum may prior to December
31 1, 2006, meet and take actions binding on the city.

32 **SECTION 7.16.**

Transition.

(a) A period of time will be needed for an orderly transition of various government functions from Fulton County to the City of Riverside. Accordingly there shall be a transition period beginning on December 1, 2006, and ending at midnight on November 30, 2008. During such transition period, all provisions of this charter shall be effective as law, but not all provisions of this charter shall be implemented.

(b) During such transition period, Fulton County shall continue to provide within the territorial limits of Riverside all government services and functions which Fulton County provided in that area at the time of enactment of this charter and at actual cost as provided pursuant to Code Section 36-31-8 of the O.C.G.A., except to the extent otherwise provided in this section; provided, however, that upon at least 30 days' written notice to Fulton County by the City of Riverside, responsibility for any such service or function shall be transferred to the City of Riverside. Effective December 1, 2006, the City of Riverside shall collect taxes, fees, assessments, fines and forfeitures, and other moneys within the territorial limits of Riverside. Where a particular tax, fee, assessment, fine, forfeiture, or other amount collected is specifically related to the provision of a particular government service or function by Fulton County, the service or function shall continue to be provided by the county contingent upon payment by the city of the actual cost of providing such service or function unless otherwise provided in a written agreement between the city and the county. Any existing contract for the performance of a governmental service with a private person residing or doing business within the city limits shall not be altered or adversely affected by the establishment by this Act of the City of Riverside.

(c) During the transition period, the governing authority of the City of Riverside:

- (1) Shall hold regular meetings and may hold special meetings as provided in this charter;
- (2) May enact ordinances and resolutions as provided in this charter;
- (3) May amend this charter by home rule action as provided by general law;
- (4) May accept gifts and grants;
- (5) May borrow money and incur indebtedness to the extent authorized by this charter and general law;
- (6) May levy and collect an ad valorem tax for calendar years 2007 and 2008;
- (7) May establish a fiscal year and budget;
- (8) May create, alter, or abolish departments, boards, offices, commissions, and agencies of the city; appoint and remove officers and employees; and exercise all necessary or appropriate personnel and management functions; and

(9) May generally exercise any power granted by this charter or general law, except to the extent that a power is specifically and integrally related to the provision of a governmental service, function, or responsibility not yet provided or carried out by the city.

(d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, during the transition period the Municipal Court of the City of Riverside shall not exercise its jurisdiction. During the transition period, all ordinances of Fulton County shall remain applicable within the territorial limits of Riverside and the appropriate court or courts of Fulton County shall retain jurisdiction to enforce such ordinances. Upon notice by the City of Riverside Fulton County shall transfer all or part of such regulatory authority and the appropriate court jurisdiction to the City of Riverside as contained in such notice. Any transfer of jurisdiction to the City of Riverside during or at the end of the transition period shall not in and of itself abate any judicial proceeding pending in Fulton County or the pending prosecution of any violation of any ordinance of Fulton County.

(e) During the transition period, the governing authority of Riverside may at any time, without the necessity of any agreement by Fulton County, commence to exercise its planning and zoning powers; provided, however, that the city shall give the county notice of the date on which the city will assume the exercise of such powers. Upon the governing authority of Riverside commencing to exercise its planning and zoning powers, the Municipal Court of the City of Riverside shall immediately have jurisdiction to enforce the planning and zoning ordinances of the city. The provisions of this subsection shall control over any conflicting provisions of any other subsection of this section.

(f) Effective upon the termination of the transition period, subsections (b) through (e) of this section shall cease to apply except for the last sentence of subsection (d) which shall remain effective. Effective upon the termination of the transition period, the City of Riverside shall be a full functioning municipal corporation and subject to all general laws of this state.

SECTION 7.17.

Directory nature of dates.

It is the intention of the General Assembly that this Act be construed as directory rather than mandatory with respect to any date prescribed in this Act. If it is necessary to delay any action called for in this Act for providential cause, delay in securing approval under the federal Voting Rights Act, or any other reason, it is the intention of the General Assembly that the action be delayed rather than abandoned. Any delay in performing any action under

1 this Act, whether for cause or otherwise, shall not operate to frustrate the overall intent of
2 this Act. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing it is specifically provided that:

3 (1) If it is not possible to hold the referendum election provided for in Section 7.14 of
4 this Act on the date specified in that section, then such referendum shall be held as soon
5 thereafter as is reasonably practicable; and

6 (2) If it is not possible to hold the first municipal election provided for in Section 2.11
7 of this Act on the date specified in that section, then there shall be a special election for
8 the initial members of the governing authority to be held as soon thereafter as is
9 reasonably practicable, and the commencement of the initial terms of office shall be
10 delayed accordingly.

11 **SECTION 7.18.**

12 Charter commission.

13 At the first regularly scheduled city council meeting, five years after the inception of the City
14 of Riverside, the mayor and city council shall create a charter commission to review the city's
15 experience and recommend to the General Assembly any changes to the city charter. All
16 members of the charter commission must reside in the City of Riverside. The commission
17 must complete the recommendations within six months of its creation.

18 **SECTION 7.19.**

19 Severability.

20 In the event any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Act shall be declared
21 or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall in no manner affect the other
22 sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases of this Act, which shall remain of full
23 force and effect, as if the section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase so declared or
24 adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part hereof. The General Assembly
25 hereby declares that it would have passed the remaining parts of this Act if it had known that
26 such part or parts hereof would be declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

27 **SECTION 7.20.**

28 General repealer.

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

APPENDIX A

The corporate limits of the City of Riverside shall consist of that portion of Fulton County described as follows:

CITY OF RIVERSIDE

Commencing at the northeasterly point of Fulton County, Georgia at the point where Fulton County, Georgia intersects the westerly county line of Gwinnett County, Georgia, the southerly county line of Forsyth County, Georgia, as the boundaries existed on January 1, 2006, and the Chattahoochee River; running thence generally southwesterly along the southeastern line of Fulton County where it intersects the northeasterly line of Gwinnett County, following the meanderings of the Chattahoochee River to the point where said Fulton-Gwinnett County line intersects, along Holcomb Bridge Road, with the southeasterly boundary of the City of Roswell, Georgia as it existed on January 1, 2006; thence leaving said Chattahoochee River running northerly along the easterly boundary line of the City of Roswell to the point at the intersection of Holcomb Bridge Road and Nesbit Ferry Road; thence running along the right-of-way of Nesbit Ferry Road along the east boundary of the City of Roswell, Georgia, to a point in Land Lot 832 1st District, 2nd Section, Fulton County, Georgia, where said boundary leaves the right-of-way of Nesbit Ferry Road; thence continuing along the right-of-way of Nesbit Ferry Road to the point where the eastern boundary of the City of Roswell re-intersects said right-of-way; thence continuing along said right-of-way of Nesbit Ferry Road to the point where said right-of-way intersects the east land lot line of Land Lot 787 aforesaid District and Section; thence leaving said right-of-way following said easterly boundary of the City of Roswell, Georgia to a point on Haynes Bridge Road where said boundary line intersects with the southeast corner of the Willow Springs Subdivision, as set out on that certain plat entitled Final Plat Willow Springs S/D, Unit 5, by Mayes Sudderth & Etheridge, Inc., recorded at Plat Book 116, page 40, Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence continuing along the right-of-way of Haynes Bridge Road both along, not along, and re-intersecting with said easterly boundary line of the City of Roswell, Georgia to the point where said easterly boundary line intersects with the southeasterly corner of the City of Alpharetta, Georgia as it existed on January 1, 2006; thence leaving said easterly boundary line of the City of Roswell, Georgia running thence north and east along the easterly boundary line of the City of Alpharetta, Georgia to the intersection of said easterly boundary line and the westerly line of Land Lot 845, aforesaid District and Section; thence running north along the westerly line of Land Lot 845 and 846, aforesaid District and Section, both along and not along said existing easterly boundary line of the City of Alpharetta, Georgia to the point where said line re-intersects with the boundary

1 of the City of Alpharetta, Georgia at Big Creek, thence following said boundary line easterly
2 along the meanderings of Big Creek to a point where Big Creek intersects Long Indian
3 Creek; thence following said boundary line of southeasterly along the meanderings of Long
4 Indian Creek to the point where Long Indian Creek intersects the easterly line of Land Lot
5 864, aforesaid District and Section, there leaving said boundary line of the City of Alpharetta,
6 Georgia; thence continuing along the meanderings of Long Indian Creek easterly to the point
7 where Long Indian Creek intersects the east line of Land Lot 918, aforesaid District and
8 Section; thence leaving Long Indian Creek running south along said east land lot line of Land
9 Lot 918 to the point where said east line intersects with the north line of Land Lot 11, 1st
10 District, 1st Section of Fulton County, Georgia; thence running east along said north land lot
11 line of said Land Lot 11 to a point where said land lot line intersects with that certain Storm
12 Drain Line located northeasterly from the northeastern line of Timberstone Subdivision,
13 Section III, as set out on that certain plat entitled Final Subdivision Map for Timberstone
14 Section III, by Urban Engineers, Inc., recorded at Plat Book 115, page 81, Official Deed
15 Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence following the meanderings of said Storm Drain
16 Line southeasterly in said Land Lot 11 to the point where said Storm Drain Line intersects
17 with the south line of said Land Lot 11; thence running east along said south line of said
18 Land Lot 11 to the point at the intersection of Land Lots 11, 12, 35 and 36 aforesaid District
19 and Section; thence running south along the east line of said Land Lot 12 to the point where
20 said land lot line intersects with the southwest corner of Lauren Hill Subdivision, as set out
21 on that certain plat entitled Final Plat of Lauren Hill Subdivision, by Watts & Browning
22 Engineers, Inc., dated February 13, 1995, recorded at Plat Book 186, page 2, Official Deed
23 Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence running easterly along the south line of said
24 Lauren Hall Subdivision following the courses and distances thereof to a point on the
25 northwesterly right-of-way of Jones Bridge Road; thence running northeast along said
26 northwesterly right-of-way of Jones Bridge Road to the point at which said right-of-way
27 intersects the northeast right-of-way of Waters Road; thence leaving said right-of-way of
28 Jones Bridge Road running northwest along said northeast right-of-way of Waters Road to
29 a point at the northwesterly corner of that certain parcel of land (Fulton County tax id#
30 11018000580174, according to the parcel numbering system existing on January 1, 2006)
31 described in that certain Warranty Deed, dated January 2, 1996, recorded in Deed Book
32 20494, page 331, Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence leaving said
33 right-of-way running northeasterly along the northerly property line of said parcel of land to
34 a point at the northeast corner of said parcel of land, said point also constituting the
35 northwesterly corner of that certain parcel of land (Fulton County tax id# 110180005801370,
36 according to the parcel numbering system existing on January 1, 2006) described in that

1 certain Warranty Deed, dated April 19, 2002, recorded in Deed Book 32301, page 65,
2 Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence running northeasterly along the
3 northerly property line of said parcel of land (Fulton County tax id# 110180005801370) to
4 a point at the northeast corner of said parcel of land, said point being located on the
5 southwesterly property line of that certain parcel of land (Fulton County tax id#
6 11018000570290, according to the parcel numbering system existing on January 1, 2006)
7 described in that certain Warranty Deed, dated October 10, 2001, recorded in Deed Book
8 31201, page 149, Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence running
9 northwesterly along said southwesterly property line to a point at the northwest corner of said
10 parcel of land; thence running southeasterly along the northwesterly property line to a point
11 at the northeast corner of said parcel of land, said point being located on the east land lot line
12 of Land Lot 58, aforesaid District and Section; thence running north along the east line of
13 Land Lots 58, 57, and 56, aforesaid District and Section, to a point at the intersection of Land
14 Lots 55, 56, 77 and 78, aforesaid District and Section; thence running east along the north
15 line of Land Lots 77 and 96, aforesaid District and Section, to a point at the intersection of
16 Land Lots 95, 96, 115 and 116, aforesaid District and Section; thence running south along
17 the east line of said Land Lot 96 to a point located at the northwesterly corner of that certain
18 parcel of land (Fulton County tax id# 11028001150240, according to the parcel numbering
19 system existing on January 1, 2006) described in that certain Executor's Deed, dated May 28,
20 2003, recorded in Deed Book 35203, page 391 Official Deed Records of Fulton County,
21 Georgia; thence leaving said land lot line running east along the north property line of said
22 parcel of land (Fulton County tax id# 11028001150240), to a point on the westerly
23 right-of-way of Buice Road; thence following said right-of-way northerly and westerly to the
24 point where said right-of-way intersects the east line of Land Lot 94, aforesaid District and
25 Section, said point being located on the east boundary of Ocee Park; thence leaving said
26 right-of-way running south along said east line to a point at the intersection of Land Lots 94,
27 95, 116, and 117 aforesaid District and Section; thence running west along the south line of
28 said Land Lot 94 to a point at the intersection of Land Lots 78, 79, 94 and 95 aforesaid
29 District and Section; running thence north along the west line of said Land Lot 94 to a point
30 at the intersection of Land Lots 79, 80, 93 and 94 aforesaid District and Section; thence
31 running east along the north line of said Land Lot 94 to a point located at the southeasterly
32 corner of that certain parcel of land (Fulton County tax id# 11027000930164, according to
33 the parcel numbering system existing on January 1, 2006) the same being set forth on that
34 certain plat entitled Final Plat for Donald Allen Fuqua, by Brumbelow-Reese & Assoc., Inc.,
35 dated November 10, 1983, recorded at Plat Book 133, page 16, Official Deed Records of
36 Fulton County, Georgia; thence leaving said land lot line running northwesterly along the

1 easterly property line of said parcel of land to a point on the southeasterly right-of-way of
2 Kimball Bridge Road; thence running northeasterly along said right-of-way to the
3 intersection of said right-of-way and the easterly right-of-way of Buice Road; thence leaving
4 said right-of-way of Kimball Bridge Road running southeasterly along the easterly
5 right-of-way of Buice Road to the point at the intersection of said right-of-way and the south
6 line of Land Lot 116 aforesaid District and Section, said point being located at the southwest
7 corner of the Pinewalk Subdivision, Unit One, as set forth on that certain plat entitled Final
8 Plat - Unit One - Pinewalk Subdivision, by Engineering and Surveying, Inc., recorded at Plat
9 Book 158, page 101, Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence leaving said
10 right-of-way of Buice Road running east along the south line of Land Lots 116 and 133
11 aforesaid District and Section, along the south property line of said Pinewalk Subdivision to
12 a point at the southeast corner of said subdivision; thence leaving said land lot line running
13 north along the east property line of said Pinewalk Subdivision, Unit One, as shown on said
14 plat, to a point at the northeast corner of said Pinewalk Subdivision; thence running west
15 along the north line of said Pinewalk Subdivision, Unit One, as shown on said plat, to the
16 point at which said property line intersects with the west land lot line of said Land Lot 133;
17 thence running north along the west land lot line of Land Lot 133, 132 and 131 aforesaid
18 District and Section to a point at the intersection of Land Lots 118, 119, 130 and 131
19 aforesaid District and Section; thence running west along the south line of said Land Lot 119,
20 100.31 feet to a point at the intersection of said land lot line and the a point immediately
21 south of the southeast corner of The Pines at Kimball Bridge, Unit One, as set forth on that
22 certain plat entitled Final Plat of: The Pines at Kimball Bridge, Unit One, by Hayes, James
23 & Associates, recorded at Plat Book 140, page 33, Official Deed Records of Fulton County,
24 Georgia; thence leaving said south land lot line running north to and along the east line of
25 said subdivision continuing along said course across the right-of-way of Kimball Bridge
26 Road to a point on the northwesterly right-of-way of Kimball Bridge; thence running
27 northeasterly following said northwesterly right-of-way of Kimball Bridge Road to a point
28 at the intersection of said right-of-way with the westerly right-of-way of Fox Road; thence
29 running northerly along said westerly right-of-way of Fox Road to a point where said
30 right-of-way intersects with the south line of Land Lot 195 aforesaid District and Section;
31 thence leaving said right-of-way running east along the south line of Land Lots 196 and 232
32 aforesaid District and Section to a point at the intersection of said land lot line and the
33 southeast corner of that certain Windward/Southpointe Development as set forth on that
34 certain plat entitled Final Plat for Windward Properties, Inc. Being Pod 39, Blocks I, J & K,
35 Windward/Southpointe, by Rochester Associates, Inc., recorded at Plat Book 159, page 130,
36 Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia; thence leaving said south land lot line

1 running north along the east property line of said Windward/Southpointe Development to a
2 point where said east property line intersects with the north line of Land Lot 232 aforesaid
3 District and Section; thence running east along the north lines of Land Lots 232 and 233
4 aforesaid District and Section to the point at the intersection of said land lot line of Land Lot
5 233 and the northwest right-of-way of Jones Bridge Road; thence leaving said land lot line
6 running northeast along said northwest right-of-way of Jones Bridge Road to the point where
7 said right-of-way intersects the east line of Land Lot 1256, 2nd District, 1st Section, Fulton
8 County, Georgia; running thence north along the east line of Land Lots 1256, 1231, 1190 and
9 1165 aforesaid District and Section, to the northerly point of Laurel Cove Subdivision – Unit
10 II on said east line of said Land Lot 1165 as set forth on that certain plat entitled Final Plat
11 Laurel Cove – Unit II, Douglas Road (Formerly Known as Huntington Trace Subdivision –
12 Unrecorded), by Patterson & Smith, Inc., dated October 2, 2001, last revised August 7, 2002,
13 recorded at Plat Book 231, page 88, Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia,
14 thence leaving said land lot line running northwesterly along the northeasterly property line
15 of said Unit II of said subdivision following the courses and distances thereof to the point
16 where said property line intersects the easterly property line of Laurel Cove Subdivision Unit
17 I as set forth on that certain plat entitled Final Plat Laurel Cove/Douglas Road, dated May
18 3, 2001, recorded at Plat Book 238, page 74, Official Deed Records of Fulton County,
19 Georgia following the courses and distances thereof to the point at which said easterly
20 property line of said Laurel Cove Subdivision Unit I intersects with the north land lot line of
21 Land Lot 1165 aforesaid District and Section; thence running east along the north line of
22 Land Lot 1165 and 1164 aforesaid District and Section, to a point located at the intersection
23 of Land Lots 1124, 1125, 1164 and 1165 aforesaid District and Section; thence leaving said
24 land lot line running northwest, southwest and northwest along the easterly property line of
25 the Calumet Subdivision as set forth on that certain plat entitled Final Plat of Calumet, by
26 Watts & Browning Engineers, dated January 16, 1991, revised January 23, 1991, recorded
27 at Plat Book 169, page 114, Official Deed Records of Fulton County, Georgia, to the point
28 where said easterly property line intersects the southerly right-of-way of Old McGinnis Ferry
29 Road; thence running westerly along the right-of-way of said Old McGinnis Ferry Road to
30 the westerly point of said Calumet Subdivision adjacent to said right-of-way; thence leaving
31 said right-of-way running southerly and easterly along the north property line of said Calumet
32 Subdivision to the point where said north property line intersects the southeast corner of that
33 certain parcel of land (Fulton County tax id# 21572011240102, according to the parcel
34 numbering system existing on January 1, 2006) described in that certain Warranty Deed,
35 dated April ___, 1982, recorded in Deed Book 8114, page 202 Official Deed Records of
36 Fulton County, Georgia; thence leaving said north property line of Calumet Subdivision

1 running north along the east property line of said parcel of land (Fulton County tax id#
2 21572011240102) following the course thereof to a point on the southerly county line of
3 Forsyth County, Georgia; running thence southeasterly along said Fulton-Forsyth County line
4 to the point where said line intersects the westerly county line of Gwinnett County and the
5 Chattahoochee River, said point being the point of beginning. All references and points set
6 out herein are as of January 1, 2006 unless otherwise stated.

1

APPENDIX B

2 Council Districts 1 through 6 shall consist of the territory of the City of Riverside described
3 in the Redistricting Plan Components Report attached to this Act and made a part thereof and
4 further identified as "Plan Name: riversidep2 Plan Type: Local User: Blake
5 Administrator: H050."

6 When used in such attachment, the terms "Tract" and "BG" (Block Group) shall mean and
7 describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of the
8 Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The separate
9 numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a "BG" heading shall mean
10 and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in the report of the Bureau
11 of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Any
12 part of the City of Riverside which is not included in any such district described in that
13 attachment shall be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the
14 least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of
15 Georgia. Any part of the City of Riverside which is described in that attachment as being in
16 a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within such district if such part is not
17 contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead be included with that
18 district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United
19 States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia.

APPENDIX C

CERTIFICATE AS TO MINIMUM STANDARDS

FOR INCORPORATION OF A NEW MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

I, Representative Mark Burkhalter, Georgia State Representative from the 50th District and the author of this bill introduced at the 2006 Session of the General Assembly of Georgia, which grants an original municipal charter to the City of Riverside do hereby certify that this bill is in compliance with the minimum standards required by Chapter 31 of Title 36 of the O.C.G.A. This certificate is executed to conform to the requirements of Code Section 36-31-5 of the O.C.G.A.

So certified, this _____ day of _____, 20__.

Representative, 50th District
Georgia House of Representatives